Listing of Claims:

1. (amended) A plug baffle device for installation in a coolant passage of a mold, the plug baffle device comprising a coolant-encountering fin and a base member mechanically immovably affixed [attached] thereto, the base member having a mold-connecting portion.

2. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 1 wherein the base member is mechanically attached to the coolant-encountering fin through a mating connection.

3. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 2 wherein the mating connection is accomplished by a male interconnecting member and a female interconnecting member.

4. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 3 wherein the male interconnecting member is integral with the coolant-encountering fin and the female interconnecting member is integral with the base member.

5. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 4 wherein:

- the female interconnecting member defines a fin-receiving channel having a channel cross-section; and
- the male interconnecting member has a base-engaging portion with a base-engaging-portion cross-section complementary to the channel cross-section.

6. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 5 wherein the base-engaging-portion cross-section is T-shaped.

7. (amended) The plug baffle device of claim 5 wherein the base member has first and second ends and includes:

- a mold-connecting portion that is substantially cylindrical, has a threaded outer surface, and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member; and
- an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member[first end], the extension portion having the female interconnecting member.

8. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 7 wherein the tool-engaging socket has an axial depth which is at least 80% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface.

9. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 8 wherein the tool-engaging socket has an axial depth which is at least 90% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface.

10. (amended) The plug baffle device of claim 7 wherein the extension portion narrows in cross-dimension toward the ~~blade~~ fin, thereby to provide lateral flow space adjacent thereto.

11. (amended) The plug baffle device of claim 1 wherein the base member has first and second ends and includes:

- a mold-connecting portion that is substantially cylindrical, has a threaded outer surface, and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member; and
- an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member[first end], the coolant-encountering fin [extension] being attached thereto.

12. (amended) [The plug baffle device of claim 11 wherein] A plug baffle device for installation in a coolant passage of a mold, the plug baffle device comprising:

- a coolant-encountering fin; and
- a base member mechanically attached thereto, the base member having first and second ends and including (A) a substantially cylindrical mold-connection portion which has a threaded outer surface and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member, the tool-engaging socket [has] having an axial depth which is at least 80% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface, and (B) an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member, the coolant-encountering fin being attached thereto.

13. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 12 wherein the tool-engaging socket has an axial depth which is at least 90% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface.

14. (amended) The plug baffle device of claim [11] 12 wherein the extension portion narrows in cross-dimension toward the ~~blade~~ fin, thereby to provide lateral flow space adjacent thereto.

15. (amended) A plug baffle device comprising:

- a coolant-encountering fin having a base-member-engaging portion; and
- a base member defining an axis and defining a female fin-receiving portion which is mechanically immovably affixed [attached] attached to the fin.

16. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein the female fin-receiving portion is dimensioned to snugly engage the base-member-engaging portion.

17. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein:

- the female fin-receiving portion defining a fin-receiving space which has an axially-facing entrance of first cross-sectional area, the fin-receiving space having a second cross-sectional area axially spaced from the entrance, the second cross-sectional area being greater than the first cross-sectional area; and
- the base-member-engaging portion of the fin has a third axial cross-sectional area greater than the first cross-sectional area, thereby preventing axial disengagement of the fin from the base member.

18. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 17 wherein:

- the base-member-engaging portion has a trans-axial cross-sectional shape which is substantially constant along at least a segment of the width thereof; and
- the fin-receiving space is a trans-axial channel configured and arranged to be substantially complementary to the base-member-engaging portion.

19. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 18 wherein the trans-axial cross-sectional shape is T-shaped.

20. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein the fin has a coolant-contacting portion which is plate-like.

21. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein the fin has a coolant-contacting portion which is helical.

22. (amended) The plug baffle device of claim 15 wherein the base member has first and second ends and includes:

- a mold-connecting portion that is substantially cylindrical, has a threaded outer surface, and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member; and
- an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member[first end], the coolant-encountering fin ~~extension~~ being attached thereto.

23. (amended) [The plug baffle device of claim 22 wherein] A plug baffle device comprising:

- a coolant-encountering fin having a base-member-engaging portion; and
- a base member mechanically attached thereto and defining an axis, the base member having first and second ends and including (A) a substantially cylindrical mold-connection portion which has a threaded outer surface and defines a tool-engaging socket opening at the first end of the base member, the tool-engaging socket [has] having an axial depth which is at least 80% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface, and (B) an extension portion that extends from the mold-connection portion to form the second end of the base member and forms a female fin-receiving portion with which the base-member-engaging portion of the fin is mechanically attached.

24. (original) The plug baffle device of claim 23 wherein the tool-engaging socket has an axial depth which is at least 90% of the axial length of the threaded outer surface.

25. (amended) The plug baffle device of claim [22] 23 wherein the extension portion narrows in cross-dimension toward the ~~blade~~ fin, thereby to provide lateral flow space adjacent thereto.

Claims 26-28 (cancelled)